

# Kearsley Urban District Council



## Annual Report

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

- 1963

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
M.O.H.

F. BROOK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
Public Health Inspector.




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MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

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*Chairman:*

Councillor E. HOWARD, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman:*

Councillor T. COOPER.

*Members:*

Councillor N. D. BROOKS

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„ A. WARD, J.P.

„ J. WALKER

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Medical Officer of Health*

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Public Health Inspector* ... .. F. BROOK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Clerk* ... .. Miss M. LINGARD

# Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I present the annual report of the health of the urban district for the year 1963.

## VITAL STATISTICS

The Death Rate has fallen from the previous year's somewhat high figure of 16.1 to 14.5 which approximates the average death rate for the last ten years. The Birth Rate has risen from 15.8 to 18.8 the highest for over ten years, and the Infant Mortality Rate of 27.6 is also a decrease from last year's figure of 42.7.

Heart Disease in some form is still the cause of most deaths. It is pleasing to see however, that the Coronary Thrombosis figure of 10 deaths is the lowest for over ten years.

Lung Cancer was responsible for seven deaths despite all the propaganda on smoking. It is difficult to persuade anyone who has been smoking for several years to desist though many have accomplished this most difficult self denial. You can however influence the teenager so that in years to come lung cancer will be a rarity.

TABLE I.

YEAR	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Death Rate ... ..	12.7	14.0	15.1	12.8	15.7	15.2	14.3	13.5	15.5	16.1	14.5
Birth Rate ... ..	15.3	15.6	10.7	16.2	13.5	16.0	13.5	17.2	16.1	15.8	18.8
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	25.0	37.0	0.0	30.0	57.0	12.0	21.4	22.5	36.1	42.7	27.6
Still Birth Rate ... ..	24.0	24.0	18.0	29.0	34.0	29.2	14.1	16.6	6.0	12.0	16.3
<b>Causes of Death:</b>											
Heart Disease ... ..	(26) 48	(16) 44	(13) 45	(14) 38	(17) 57	(25) 42	(20) 37	(30) 47	(18) 40	(10) 27	(10) 35
Cancer ... ..	(4) 23	(3) 19	(7) 26	(3) 11	(3) 18	(5) 25	(8) 23	(4) 20	(5) 18	(7) 21	(3) 14
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	12	24	24	14	26	25	25	13	16	27	28
Bronchitis ... ..	12	16	17	12	6	4	6	7	10	5	4
Pneumonia ... ..	3	3	2	3	2	5	7	4	2	8	8

The figures in brackets are those of Coronary Thrombosis and Lung Cancer.



TABLE II.

## DEATHS OF PEOPLE AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER

	65—70	71—75	76—80	81—85	Over 85	Total
January	4	3	—	—	1	8
February	2	1	1	—	1	5
March	5	1	1	1	—	8
April	1	3	1	1	1	7
May	3	—	—	1	1	5
June	1	2	2	—	—	5
July	5	1	1	4	1	12
August	1	2	3	—	2	8
September	1	1	—	1	2	5
October	1	—	—	1	—	2
November	—	—	1	1	1	3
December	—	1	1	3	—	5
	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	24	15	11	13	10	73
	=	=	=	=	=	=



STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area—1,728 statute acres (approx.).  
Population—Estimated June, 1963—10,490.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Births:							Total	Males	Females
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	174	90	84
	Illegitimate		...	...	...	...	7	3	4
Still Births:									
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1
	Illegitimate		...	...	...	...	—	—	—
							Kearsley	England & Wales	
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...					18.8	18.2	
Still Births per 1,000 total births	...	...					16.3	17.3	
							Total	Males	Females
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	131	53	78
							Kearsley	England & Wales	
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)							14.5	12.2	
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth							...	Nil	
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:									
							Total	Males	Females
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	3
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
							Kearsley	England & Wales	
Infant Mortality Rate:									
(All infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)	...	...	...	...			27.6	20.9	
Perinatal Mortality Rate:									
(Per 1,000 total births)	...	...	...				32.6	29.3	
Maternal Mortality Rate:									
(Per 1,000 total births)	...	...	...				Nil	0.28	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...			14
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...			Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...						Nil

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1963

Vascular lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Cancer of lung and bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
												<hr/>
												131
												<hr/>

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year 1963:—

Disease	No.
Scarlet Fever     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	2
Dysentery             ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	Nil
Measles     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	254
Pneumonia (all forms)     ...     ...     ...     ...	3

Cases removed to Hospital from the district:—

Pneumonia             ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	3
Sonne Dysentery             ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	—
Measles     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	1

Tuberculosis—Cases Notified:—

Respiratory             ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	1
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The treatment of all cases of tuberculosis is undertaken by the County Council.

### FOOD POISONING

During the year there was one case of Food Poisoning reported.

### SCARLET FEVER

Two cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, and both of these were nursed at home.

### DIPHTHERIA

For the seventeenth year in succession there were no cases of Diphtheria.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

The bacteriological examination of sputum is undertaken by the Lancashire Tuberculosis Committee.

The bacteriological examination of milk and water samples and of pathological specimens is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary.

WATER SUPPLY

Bolton Corporation having merged with Irwell Valley Water Board as from the 1st April, 1963, is now the sole source of supply for the whole of the district.

The Chemical Analysis and Bacteriological examinations are now given collectively for the areas previously supplied by Bolton Corporation Waterworks, Irwell Valley Water Board and Bacup Corporation Water Undertaking. These show that the quality and quantity is satisfactory.

There are four houses, with a population of 12, in the outlying district known as Giant's Seat, dependent on well water, which is not a connected supply.

								<i>Bolton Corp.</i>
No. of bacteriological examinations of raw water	...							351
Results	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
No. of chemical analyses				...	...	...	...	351
Results	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory

*Water going into supply where treatment is installed: —*

No. of bacteriological examinations	...	...	...					851
Results	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory 834
								Unsatisfactory 17
No. of chemical analyses				...	...	...	...	843
Results	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
Action taken in respect of any form of contamination	...							No contam'tion
Liability to plumbo-solvent action	...	...	...					None

All dwelling houses in the district, except for four, are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses.

## HOUSING

Private enterprise built 112 houses during the year. There is not in the urban district an acute shortage of housing accommodation, and the housing list is now mainly composed of people desiring houses better placed and with better amenities than those which they at present occupy.

There are only 26 houses to be dealt with to complete the slum clearance programme compiled in 1955.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

	Houses	Flats	Bungalows
(1) By the local authority ...	—	—	18
(2) By other local authorities ...	—	—	—
(3) By other bodies or persons ...	112	—	—

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	92
(b)	No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose ... ..	184
(2)	Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:—	
	No. found during the year ...	42
(3)	No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ...	50



2. Houses Demolished :—

In Clearance Areas :—

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year Persons Families	
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	19	—	—
(2) Houses included by bad arrange- ment, etc. ... ..	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957 Not in Clearance Areas :—	—	—	—
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	—	—	—

3. Unfit Houses Closed :—

Number

(1) Under Section 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	4	15	4
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	—	—	—
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—

4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in  
which Defects were remedied :—

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority ...	26	—
(2) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts ... ..	2	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	—	—
(3) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—

5. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 and House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959:—

Standard Grants:—

Action during year:—	<i>No. of dwellings or other buildings affected</i>
(i) Applications submitted to local authority	30
(ii) Applications approved by local authority	25
(iii) Work completed ... ..	17

The Council also makes loans under the above provisions for the construction, acquisition, improvement and repair of houses.

6. Housing Conditions:—

Approximately 32 per cent. of the houses in Kearsley may be classed as old, 19 per cent. as medium and 49 per cent. as modern.

There are only a few families in lodgings who really need housing.

(i) In hand at end of year:—

8 Flats.



## NOTICES

Thirty-four preliminary notices were served during the year.

### HOUSE REFUSE SCAVENGING

Statement showing the number of receptacles emptied during the year:—

Ashbins	...	...	...	...	190,722
Pails	...	...	...	...	463
Total loads removed	...	...	...	...	2,817

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Singing Clough Tip. This method continues to be most satisfactory.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fresh water closets	...	...	...	...	3,833
Waste water closets	...	...	...	...	44
Ashbins	...	...	...	...	4,029
Pails	...	...	...	...	7
Privy middens	...	...	...	...	1
Privy closets	...	...	...	...	1

### SALVAGE

The collection and sale of salvage continues to be successful. During the year under review the combined weight of salvage collected was 183 tons 13 cwts. 1 qtr., made up as follows:—

			T.	C.	Q.
Waste Paper	...	...	134	1	1
Kitchen Waste	...	...	19	0	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	30	11	1

The total value was £1,206.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Drainage is partly on the combined and partly on the separate system. The following summary shows how the sewage is dealt with:—

Sewage Works.	Method of Treatment.
Clammerclough ... ..	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Main Outfall, Kearsley Green ... ..	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Ringley ... ..	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Prestolee ... ..	Detritus tanks, aeration tanks, humus tanks and storm tanks.

At Horridge Brook and Unity Brook the sewage is lifted by automatic ejectors into sewers connected with the Main Outfall Works.

The Bolton and District Joint Sewerage Board is still working on the construction of a new Sewage Works.

## ICE CREAM

There are now 45 shops in the urban district registered for the sale of ice cream.

Ten samples of ice cream were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary, for bacteriological examination, and the results were satisfactory.

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

During the year the following food was found to be unfit for human consumption, and was voluntarily surrendered by the owners:—

Fish, 14lbs.  
Tinned Ham, 10lbs.

## ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

A total of 56 samples was obtained, consisting of 32 samples of milk and 24 others comprising:—

1 Custard Powder	1 Tea
1 Rice	1 Liquid paraffin B.P.
1 Boracic lint B.P.C.	2 Headache powders
2 Dried fruit	1 Dried full cream milk
1 Laxative tablets	1 Pork sausages
2 Coffee	1 Boracic powder
1 Butter	1 Bacon
1 Vitamin C tablets	1 Salad Cream
1 Bottled mussels	1 Aspirin tablets B.P.
2 Marmalade	1 Ground spice

I give below details of those samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
1 Dried fruit	Several of the apricots in the sample were in a dirty condition.	Remaining stock at the day nursery examined.
1 Pork sausage	Meat content 62%; poor in meat content. Contained 166 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor cautioned re preservative.

## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES

During the year twenty-two visits were paid to factories and workplaces, and thirty-six visits to Bakehouses.

The premises were in a satisfactory condition.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

There was one case of bed bugs found during the year.

## RODENT CONTROL

One man is engaged solely on this work.

One sewer maintenance treatment has been carried out during the year.

The following action relating to rodent control has also been carried out:—

	Type of Property		
	Non-agricultural		Agricultural
	Dwelling Houses	All Other	
(a) No of properties in the district	3,627	662	12
(b) No. of properties inspected ...	1,286	395	12
(c) Total inspections carried out (incl. re-inspections) ... ..	2,170	395	12
(d) No. of properties inspected which were found to be in- fested by:			
Rats—major ... ..	—	—	—
Rats—minor ... ..	46	43	—
Mice—major ... ..	—	—	—
Mice—minor ... ..	71	43	—
(e) No. of infested properties treated ... ..	213	139	—
(f) Total treatments carried out (incl. re-treatments) ... ..	213	139	—
(g) No. of 'Block' control schemes carried out ... ..	—	—	—

# SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1st January, 1963, to 31st December, 1963

Visits to Infectious Diseases ... ..	2
Visits to Property Under Notice ... ..	287
Visits to Factories and Workplaces ... ..	22
Visits to Bakehouses ... ..	36
Visits to Shops ... ..	44
Interviews with Owners, Builders, Architects, etc. ... ..	29
Inspections of Drains, etc., and Works in Progress ... ..	122
General visits—no nuisances ... ..	1124
Smoke Control Area ... ..	8
	<hr/>
	1,674
	<hr/>

I am, as ever, grateful to the members of the Health Committee for their help and encouragement and to the staff of the Health Department for loyal co-operation.

I am,  
Your obedient servant,  
R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON,  
Medical Officer of Health.



# **FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959**

## **PART I OF THE ACT**

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises		Numbers of			Occu- piers prosecuted
	Number on Register	Inspec- tions	Written notices		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	69	39	Nil		Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	21	19	Nil		Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
	—	—	—		—
Total .....	90	58	Nil		Nil

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) .....	7	7	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S. 2) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	7	7	Nil	Nil	Nil

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### Out-work

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 110 (l) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil





